

EXHIBIT A-1

14 VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF
15 SEABRON ADAMSON
16 Tuesday, November 8, 2022
17 10:06 a.m.
18 Veritext
19 101 Arch Street
20 Boston, Massachusetts 02110
21
22
23
24 Laurie K. Langer, RPR

1 agreements. If you want to take that to be liability,
2 liability I guess is a legal term. But -- so I am
3 addressing issues related to the consistency of the, the
4 rates and the sales agreements.

5 Q. Okay. And whether or not XOOM breached those
6 provisions?

7 A. Well, I mean, again, "breach" seems a legal word.
8 But whether it's -- whether the pricing was consistent
9 with the, with the pricing required in the sales
10 agreements.

11 Q. Okay. Is "breach" a word that you have
12 difficulty with?

13 A. No, I just.

14 Q. You've worked in a lot of --

15 A. Yeah.

16 Q. -- litigation for a long time.

17 A. Sure. I just -- I don't know exactly what
18 implications you're trying to put to that. I was just
19 trying to describe clearly what I did, which I think is
20 what's described here.

21 Q. I guess put differently, you are offering an
22 opinion about whether or not XOOM complied with the
23 pricing provisions of its sales agreement?

24 A. Yes.

Page 10

1 Q. Okay. So the third bullet point says that you
2 have been asked, "to determine whether XOOM set its
3 rates as required by the sales agreements."

4 Correct?

5 A. Yeah. The consistency, you know, the consistency
6 from an economic and commercial point between the rates
7 and, and, you know, how it -- how it -- how it
8 describes, I think, the phrase that we'll get, we'll get
9 around to today about the actual and estimated supply
10 costs --

11 Q. Yep.

12 A. -- in the -- in the sales agreement.

13 Q. Right. That's -- that's where I was going next.

14 The sales agreement requires that rates be set,
15 "based on XOOM's actual and estimated supply costs."

16 Right?

17 A. I don't have the phrasing in front of me, but
18 that sounds right.

19 Q. We can do that. I'm not trying to --

20 A. Yeah. I mean -- I think that's --

21 Q. Bear with me one second.

22 MR. MATTHEWS: May I mark this as Exhibit 2.
23 (Deposition Exhibit No. 2 marked for
24 identification.)

Page 12

1 Q. Okay. And so are you also offering an opinion
2 about how the pricing terms of the sales agreements
3 should be interpreted?

4 A. No. I'm providing a -- my -- well, I'm providing
5 my understanding of what it says and in the context of
6 the, of electricity and gas markets and retail markets
7 and how that works out. Obviously, I'm not offering a
8 legal opinion on the language.

9 Q. Okay.

10 A. I'm offering my understanding based on knowledge
11 of these markets of how these, how these work.

12 Q. Okay. You're not offering a legal interpretation
13 of the pricing provisions in the XOOM sales agreement?

14 MR. WITTELS: Objection. I mean, I think he
15 asked -- he just answered it, didn't he?

16 MR. MATTHEWS: Steve, please, no speaking
17 objections today. Please.

18 MR. WITTELS: But it's the same question.

19 MR. MATTHEWS: "Objection form" is what's
20 appropriate to say, as you have reminded me. Okay?

21 A. I am not offering a legal opinion.

22 Q. Okay. Were you asked to assume a particular
23 interpretation of the pricing provisions?

24 A. No, not really. I mean, they're on the page.

Page 11

1 Q. Okay. And, Mr. Adamson, does this appear to be a
2 copy of the sales agreement you were referring to?

3 A. Yes, I think so. I mean, there were

4 various, obviously various versions of these over time,

5 but this looks like the one.

6 Q. This is the one that you analyzed --

7 A. Yes, I believe --

8 Q. -- in connection with preparing this report?

9 A. Yes, I believe so.

10 Q. Okay. And in connection with the assignment to
11 determine whether XOOM set its rates as required by the

12 sales agreements, can you direct me to the provisions

13 that you looked at that relate to rate setting?

14 A. I mean, you know, obviously the -- the -- the
15 primary one is in this top right box, starting "your
16 rate."

17 Q. "Your rate for energy purchases will be a
18 variable rate, per kilowatt hour, that may change on a
19 monthly basis, plus taxes and fees, if applicable. Your
20 monthly variable rate is based on XOOM's actual and
21 estimated supply costs which may include but not be
22 limited to prior period adjustments, inventory and
23 balancing costs. You are responsible for all charges
24 assessed and billed by your local utility for all

Page 13

4 (Pages 10 - 13)

1 which is I think what you're doing. But I think you
2 understand what we did.
3 Q. I am, because I'm focusing in my question, I have
4 built this in on your damage calculation. So I
5 understand your position about bullet 3, let's call it.
6 Which is your opinions about whether or not XOOM's rate
7 setting was consistent or not, with the sale agreement.
8 But I'm talking about with respect to 4, after
9 you concluded --
10 A. Uh-huh.
11 Q. -- the rate was not consistent --
12 A. Right.
13 Q. -- that your damage model --
14 A. Right.
15 Q. -- and what they considered relevant was the
16 amount of gross margin that XOOM put on top of its
17 supply cost?
18 A. Are we discussing the Method 1 model or the
19 Method 2 model?
20 Q. Well, it's both; right?
21 A. Well, it's --
22 Q. Let's start with Method 1.
23 A. Okay. Right.
24 Q. Right. Method 1, what was relevant was the

Page 66

1 A. The -- between total cost and the rate.
2 Q. Okay. Which is the margin?
3 MR. WITTELS: Object.
4 A. The rate is not the margin.
5 Q. No, I know.
6 A. A rate is not a margin.
7 Q. The delta is. The delta is.
8 A. Okay. We can call that a margin, yes.
9 Q. The delta between the total costs --
10 A. Right.
11 Q. -- and the rate is --
12 A. Right.
13 Q. -- the margin; right?
14 A. That -- that -- you can characterize that as a
15 margin.
16 Q. Well, what would you characterize it?
17 A. I would just characterize it as a difference, as
18 a delta.
19 Q. Okay. You're not offering an opinion in this
20 case that under the sales agreement XOOM could not
21 charge more than the regulated utilities rate; right?
22 A. No. I mean, the comparison I made was between
23 supply costs and the rate under this contract.
24 Q. Right. And you're not offering a damage model

Page 68

1 amount of gross margin that's input on top of its supply
2 costs; right?
3 MR. WITTELS: Objection.
4 A. Of the difference -- if you want to -- you're
5 expressing that as a form -- you're expressing the
6 delta, the difference, right, as a gross margin. That's
7 not exactly how it was calculated.
8 I mean, it was calculated just as there's
9 differences, not any -- you're saying a gross margin on
10 a gross margin calc -- I want to be specific about how
11 you're using the term "gross margin."
12 Q. I didn't think it was tricky. I mean, your
13 report says that you calculated by reference -- by
14 comparing XOOM's margin reports to XOOM's rate setting
15 workbooks; right?
16 A. Right. I was getting to the delta between rates
17 and costs.
18 Q. Okay.
19 A. It's just that it was in the margin setting
20 workbooks.
21 Q. So with respect to Model 1 the relevant
22 consideration was the delta between XOOM's total costs
23 and XOOM's margin?
24 MR. WITTELS: Objection.

Page 67

1 that compares XOOM's variable rate charges to what
2 customers would have been charged by the utility during
3 the same time period?
4 MR. WITTELS: Objection.
5 A. No. The damage models as we discussed are the
6 two.
7 Q. Right. And you don't intend to offer an opinion
8 about that?
9 A. No. The only thing we used was a, as a graphical
10 comparison on the relationship between supply costs and
11 the utility rate, as an example. But the two models are
12 the two models.
13 Q. Yep. Okay. Are you offering an opinion about
14 what is a reasonable or appropriate margin for an ESCO
15 to charge?
16 A. Well, to build the second model we needed an
17 estimate of a margin. We really didn't have any
18 information that would allow that to be created, since
19 XOOM had, from what we can tell, had never done it that
20 way. They had never tried to calculate a, or they did
21 not present in any way, I can't say that they never
22 tried. They did not present in the rate setting
23 workbooks and other information calculations of any sort
24 like that. So we used the margin from fixed rate

Page 69

18 (Pages 66 - 69)

1 customers as a proxy of a rate that XOOM itself had
2 used. I can't go further than that because there's no
3 information.

4 MR. MATTHEWS: Can you read my question
5 back, please.

6 (Prior testimony read back.)

7 "Are you offering an opinion
8 about what is a reasonable or
9 appropriate margin for an ESCO
10 to charge?"

11 A. Yeah. Conceptually, yes. Conceptually, yes.

12 Thanks for reading that back.

13 Q. That's okay. And what is the opinion that you're
14 offering conceptually about that?

15 A. Well, I mean, it's obviously related to the
16 contract that we've been discussing, whether it's based
17 on supply costs, that, you know, if the Court were to
18 decide that a margin was allowed, that it can't be an
19 uncapped margin, that's why we made a second calculation
20 using the fixed rate margin as a proxy of what might be
21 an acceptable margin.

22 Q. Are you offering any opinion about what is an
23 acceptable or appropriate, a reasonable margin aside
24 from just using XOOM's fixed rate margin?

Page 70

1 Q. And if he said, "but can you give me a cutoff
2 point? Is there a number that you can assign to that?"
3 Would you be able to give him one?

4 MR. WITTELS: Objection.

5 A. I wouldn't be able to give him a number on the
6 stand because I wouldn't have the, XOOM's internal
7 information, no.

8 Q. Okay. So the margin in your view, --

9 A. Uh-huh.

10 Q. -- the margin that is appropriate for an ESCO to
11 charge conceptually --

12 A. Uh-huh.

13 Q. -- is ESCO specific?

14 A. Well, again, we're talking about relation to a
15 specific contract, so.

16 Q. I'm not.

17 A. You're not.

18 MR. WITTELS: Don't interrupt him.

19 A. I am talking -- sorry. I'm talking about this
20 specific contract. Other ESCOs may have, and I'm sure
21 do, very different contractual forms. And in fact,
22 ESCOs -- even the same ESCO will have lots, may have
23 different pricing, right, under different arrangements.
24 We're talking about variable rate pricing here as

Page 72

1 A. We haven't offered that opinion, we don't have
2 any information to do that.

3 Q. Do you intend to?

4 A. If information were to be provided, but that
5 would have to come from XOOM. So I, in the absence of
6 not expecting anymore information to come, no.

7 Q. Well, we've gotten talking past each other again.
8 I'm talking conceptually. You've said that it will be
9 for the Court to decide whether a margin can be charged
10 and if so what's appropriate; right?

11 A. Right.

12 Q. And if we go to trial --

13 A. Uh-huh.

14 Q. -- and you take the witness stand --

15 A. Uh-huh.

16 Q. -- and I'm asking you questions and the judge
17 gets frustrated with my questions and says, "let's cut
18 to the chase. Mr. Adamson, what do you think is an
19 appropriate margin for an ESCO to charge?" What would
20 your answer be?

21 MR. WITTELS: Objection.

22 A. I would say conceptually it's got to be related
23 to the, related to the costs. And in a broad conceptual
24 basis.

Page 71

1 opposed to fixed rate pricing.

2 Q. Uh-huh.

3 A. Fixed rate pricing, I think we can all agree, the
4 actual outturn margins could be quite different. A lot
5 depends on timing in that case; right? Okay. So I
6 don't know that there is a "single ESCO number" I don't
7 think that's a meaningful concept.

8 Q. Okay. Is there a single ESCO number for variable
9 rates that in your opinion would be a cap on what is an
10 appropriate or reasonable margin?

11 A. I don't have a number in mind because I don't
12 know what the, what would be claimed to be the types of,
13 of costs that, to be recovered in that margin. What I
14 don't -- you know, I don't have a number. What I am
15 offering is conceptually that the margin has to be based
16 on something from reality to be meaningful in the
17 context of this contract, and, you know, can't be
18 arbitrary.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. But I don't have a number to give you.

21 Q. Okay. And would not be able to create one?

22 MR. WITTELS: Objection.

23 A. Not -- not on the information available right
24 now. I think that would need more inputs than are

Page 73

19 (Pages 70 - 73)

1 organizations.
2 Q. But as it relates to rates that they charge
3 customers in New York, they are required to be profit
4 neutral; right?
5 MR. WITTELS: Objection.
6 A. I -- again, the utilities themselves are for
7 profit, investor owned companies. I think what you're
8 talking about is the procurement function in the kind of
9 default service rate. Is that what you're referring to?
10 Q. Yes.
11 A. I think that -- I think with that -- with that
12 characterization I think that that is they are passing
13 through their costs. Is my understanding of how it's
14 done.
15 Q. Supply services that the regulated utility
16 provides customers in New York, are profited for the
17 utility?
18 A. I haven't expressed that opinion. There's a
19 little subtly there about what, I mean, how the utility
20 itself as an aggregate is regulated. I think
21 you're -- I think you're missing something. The -- the
22 passthrough -- the recovery of the utility's default
23 service costs is done without a markup, I agree with you
24 then.

Page 90

1 Do you remember writing that?
2 A. No. Not right now. But I'm assuming you're
3 reading it correctly.
4 Q. Okay. Is that a view that you no longer hold?
5 A. Well, in general you have to -- no. I mean, yes.
6 In the sense -- they have to -- in general they have to
7 charge a margin, the question is whether they can charge
8 that margin on these contracts given this wording.
9 Q. Okay. And in Richards the contract language that
10 was at issue was that the rate must be "based on
11 business and market conditions."
12 Right?
13 A. Yeah.
14 Q. And your interpretation of that is that it should
15 be interpreted as a rate that is consistent with the
16 cost of procuring power in the wholesale market, plus an
17 appropriate margin to cover the legitimate costs and
18 risks of supplying variable rate customers."
19 Do you remember that?
20 MR. WITTELS: Is that a direct quote?
21 MR. MATTHEWS: It is.
22 A. I'm sorry. What was the question?
23 MR. WITTELS: Could you read it back and
24 tell us where the quote starts, please.

Page 92

1 Q. Okay. So based on those calculations that are
2 shown in paragraph 72, under Model 1 customers would
3 actually be put in a better position than if they had
4 just stayed with the utility rather than switching with
5 XOOM; right?
6 A. Generally, yes.
7 Q. Let's talk about the Richards case. Richard
8 versus Direct Energy was a variable rate case, --
9 A. Uh-huh.
10 Q. -- that filed a putative class action in the
11 District of Connecticut; right?
12 A. If you say so. I don't remember all the details
13 about it.
14 Q. Okay. Do you remember how it resolved?
15 A. No.
16 Q. Okay. You prepared a report for the plaintiff in
17 that case; correct?
18 A. Yes.
19 Q. Okay. And --
20 A. Well, with -- with someone else.
21 Q. Right. And you wrote, and the District Court
22 later quoted your opinion, "retailers such as DES must
23 charge some margin on their variable rate sales to cover
24 their legitimate costs of doing business."

Page 91

1 MR. MATTHEWS: I -- I can do it.
2 A. Just read out the quote again, please.
3 Q. Sure. This is -- this is from the Court's
4 opinion and I will quote your -- the Court is quoting
5 your report. And I'll tell you when it starts.
6 So the Court wrote, "Mr. Richard's experts
7 further concluded that the phrase, 'business and market
8 conditions' should be interpreted as a rate that is
9 consistent with the cost of procuring power in the
10 wholesale market, plus an appropriate margin to cover
11 the legitimate costs and risks of supplying variable
12 rate customers."
13 Do you remember that?
14 A. I don't remember the exact wording, but I trust
15 your reading.
16 Q. So we had in Richards the phrase, "based on
17 business and market conditions;" right?
18 A. Uh-huh.
19 Q. And we have in this case the phrase, "based on
20 actual and estimated supply costs."
21 Right?
22 A. Uh-huh.
23 Q. So why in the Richards case did you believe it
24 was okay, or that that phrase should be interpreted as a

Page 93

24 (Pages 90 - 93)

<p>1 rate that is consistent with the costs plus an 2 appropriate margin, but in this case your opinion that, 3 is that based on actual and estimated supply costs does 4 not allow for recovery of an appropriate margin? 5 A. Okay. Well, I mean, obviously those are two very 6 different wordings. Right? I mean, here we have a 7 very -- in this particular case, with the Mirkins, we 8 have this specific contractual language around supply 9 costs, which as I remember wasn't -- that actual and 10 estimated supply costs and the examples of direct supply 11 costs were not in that contractual language; correct? 12 As you just read out. 13 Here we have this very specific contractual 14 language which, you know, as I said, my first, my first 15 reading of that is, you know, what it says, "specific 16 actual and estimated supply costs." 17 So, you know, as we saw in the report, if the 18 Court were to find that that phrase should be 19 interpreted to mean having a margin, we, we produced the 20 second model with a margin. But, you know, that's 21 really kind of for the Court, in my mind, to determine. 22 You know, my first read is supply costs are pretty 23 narrowly defined as supply costs. It doesn't include 24 marketing costs, for example, that you mentioned. So,</p>	<p>1 Q. Okay. 2 A. I don't mean construction in a legal sense, I 3 mean just the wording is different; right? I mean, the 4 pricing provisions are different. 5 Q. The words are not exactly the same, I will agree 6 with you on that. 7 A. Well, and in my mind the economic meaning of the 8 words is not the same. Clearly the words are not the 9 same. It's not the same words on the page on the left 10 and the right. But to me, I mean, I -- I interpret the 11 meaning of those to be somewhat different. 12 Q. I can tell. 13 A. Uh-huh. 14 Q. But neither one referenced margin or profit; 15 right? 16 A. No. 17 Q. Okay. All right. Model 2. 18 A. Okay. 19 Q. Let's look at where that begins. 20 A. Page 23. 21 Q. So Model 2 in plain terms is like Model 1 except 22 that you also factored in the margin that XOOM charged 23 its fixed rate customers; right? 24 A. Yeah, in broad terms, yes.</p>
<p>Page 94</p> <p>1 you know, that's why Model 1 went with, went with supply 2 costs. 3 Q. Okay. In the contract language here, one of the 4 reasons that you have opined -- 5 A. Uh-huh. 6 Q. -- that XOOM has constrained its -- 7 A. Uh-huh. 8 Q. -- supply costs is that the contract language 9 doesn't reference margin; right? 10 A. Uh-huh. 11 Q. But the Richards -- 12 MR. WITTELS: You have to say -- you have to 13 say, "yes." You can't say, "uh-huh." 14 A. I'm sorry. I think, yes. 15 Q. But the Richards contract language, based on 16 business and market conditions, didn't reference margin 17 either; right? 18 A. No. But it also doesn't have the specific 19 construction here. 20 Q. Okay. Are -- are you now prepared to provide 21 contract interpretation? 22 A. No. But I'm just saying it doesn't have the same 23 word. I mean, it doesn't -- it doesn't work the same 24 way.</p>	<p>Page 95</p> <p>1 Q. Okay. And that's essentially the damage model 2 used in the Richards case; right? 3 MR. WITTELS: Objection. 4 A. I don't exactly remember how that one, that one 5 worked. That was maybe, like, seven or eight years ago. 6 But I'm -- so I'll -- I won't say I remember 7 specifically how the model worked there. 8 Q. Okay. You -- are you offering the opinion that 9 it's inappropriate for XOOM to seek a higher margin for 10 variable rates than it does for fixed rates? 11 A. That that -- the -- you know, with the assumption 12 of the margin, so, I mean, everything we're predicated 13 here is on the assumption of the applicability of the 14 margin under this specific contract. I -- we need a 15 reasonable margin to charge. 16 We used the fixed rate margin as, you know, 17 indicative of a rate that, a margin that XOOM itself had 18 charged in the same months, in the same periods, blah, 19 blah, blah, all being equal, and as, as an indicator of 20 what a reasonable margin might be. 21 Q. Okay. And are you offering an opinion in this 22 case that it would be unreasonable for XOOM to target a 23 higher margin on its variable rates than it does on its 24 fixed rates?</p>

25 (Pages 94 - 97)

<p>1 A. Okay. 2 Q. As you can tell by the -- 3 A. Okay. 4 Q. You can verify it. 5 A. I believe you. It makes sense. 6 Q. There's a file stamp at the top. 7 A. Yeah, it makes sense. 8 MR. MATTHEWS: And this I'll mark as 9 Exhibit 6. 10 (Deposition Exhibit No. 6 marked for 11 identification.) 12 Q. Is another exhibit to the Complaint as you can 13 also verify from the file stamp at the top. Which is a 14 document titled Market Supply Cost Build Up. 15 Do you see that? 16 A. Yes. 17 Q. Okay. Have you seen that Market Supply Cost 18 Build Up before? 19 A. Yes. 20 Q. This is Exhibit 6. Did you prepare it? 21 A. I think people at CRA prepared it. I think I may 22 have reviewed it. I don't know that I completely 23 prepared it, but I certainly reviewed it. 24 Q. Got it. It -- it is a document that CRA --</p>	<p>1 A. Somebody at CRA did, yes. 2 Q. I'm sorry. Poor question. 3 You do have a recognition of -- 4 A. Yeah, there was a -- 5 Q. -- reviewing that? 6 A. Yeah. It's -- yes. 7 Q. Okay. This estimate of Market Supply Cost Build 8 Up that's Exhibit 6 -- 9 A. Uh-huh. 10 Q. -- includes a 13.67 percent margin at the bottom; 11 right? Do you see that? 12 A. I don't see 13.67. I see 1.3, but that's in 13 different units. Is that what you're referring to? 14 Sorry. Just to be clear. 15 Q. Well, the reason I know that is if you look at 16 paragraph 55 of Exhibit 5. 17 A. Yeah. Yeah, that says 1.3 cents. 18 Q. Right. 19 A. Right. 20 Q. And if you flip to the next page. 21 A. Right. Okay. 22 Q. That explains that that represents an average 23 13.67 percent markup? 24 A. Okay. Yes. Sorry. I was looking for 13.67 on</p>
<p>Page 114</p> <p>1 A. Contributed to. Yes. 2 Q. -- contributed to. And you reviewed before it 3 was filed? 4 A. I think I reviewed it. I don't know anything 5 about the filing. I wasn't part the filing process, but 6 I reviewed it, I think, before it got sent to counsel. 7 Q. Got it. And this, this Market Supply Cost Build 8 Up is also summarized in the body of the Complaint 9 itself starting at paragraph 54. 10 A. Okay. 11 Q. Do you see that? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Okay. And did -- let's see if it corresponds. 14 The table that's presented in paragraph 54 is 15 that also something that you and your colleagues at CRA 16 helped to prepare? 17 A. I don't remember that. I mean, it's possible. 18 It was years ago. But I don't remember that. 19 Q. Okay. 20 A. If it is I don't remember -- I didn't do it 21 personally, I don't think. 22 Q. Okay. 23 A. I don't remember that one at all. 24 Q. Exhibit 6, the Supply Cost Build Up you did?</p>	<p>Page 116</p> <p>1 this page. 2 Q. That's okay. 3 A. Yeah. 4 Q. A margin of 1.3 cents which equates to a 5 13.67 percent margin over XOOM's estimated supply costs; 6 right? 7 A. Over -- over the build up costs. 8 Q. Correct. 9 A. Yeah. Sorry. Yeah. 10 Q. That's okay. 11 A. Yeah, so there's the build up costs and then it 12 says "potential margin," so. 13 Q. So why did you include some margin in the Market 14 Supply Cost Build Up and the discussion of Market Supply 15 Cost Build Up in the Complaint, but not in Model 1? 16 A. Well, Model 1 we had more -- by Model 1 we had 17 both -- we had more information in discovery and this 18 was just based on, you know, put together from some 19 public information; right? And just added something in 20 there made it a bit more conservative. 21 But the, you know, there was no information about 22 the actual rate setting process. I mean, these 23 were -- these numbers, as I remember, were based on 24 New York ISO numbers.</p>

1 Q. I'm with you. But my question is about the
2 margin.
3 A. Yeah. The potential margin?
4 Q. Yeah. That you included a --
5 A. Uh-huh.
6 Q. -- potential margin in the Complaint.
7 A. Right. Right.
8 Q. And in this Market Supply Cost Build Up that was
9 an attachment to the --
10 A. Right.
11 Q. -- Complaint; right?
12 A. Yes.
13 Q. But you do not include a margin in Model 1;
14 correct?
15 A. No, that's in Model 2.
16 Q. Okay. And you did not include it in Model 1
17 because in your view the contract language does not
18 state that it should be included?
19 A. Yes.
20 Q. So why did you include it in the Complaint?
21 A. Well, again, these were numbers built up with no
22 data. And, you know, we presented kind of with and
23 without. Like -- Like I actually do in Model 1 and
24 Model 2.

Page 118

1 included in paragraph 54, the column that says,
2 Difference in Percentage.
3 A. Uh-huh.
4 Q. That factors in margin; right?
5 A. Yep. Yes. I think so. Because it looks
6 like -- well, actually -- that's a good question because
7 this actually refers to the table at the bottom. I -- I
8 think so. I mean, I don't think it's possible to see
9 exactly on here.
10 Q. Okay --
11 A. Because there is, like, a period interpolation on
12 here.
13 Q. So just looking at 54.
14 A. Uh-huh.
15 Q. Footnote 27, do you see that in the table?
16 A. Yep. Okay. Yep. I see that.
17 Q. And Footnote 27 says that that adds percent
18 margin; right?
19 A. That adds the 1.3 cents. Yes, I agree with you.
20 Q. Okay. Did you review the Complaint that is
21 Exhibit 5 before it was filed?
22 A. No, I don't think so. I don't remember it.
23 Q. Okay. Do you think that 13.67 percent margin is
24 a generous or substantial margin for an ESCO, generally

Page 120

1 Q. But I'm just talking about the margin. The
2 inclusion of the margin in the Market Cost Build Up, why
3 did you include margin in the Market Cost Build Up? You
4 had the contract language at that time.
5 A. We had the contract language but nothing else.
6 Nothing about the process, nothing about how they had
7 done it. I mean, I think that was pre, certainly pre, I
8 ever saw, any of the deposition or any of the
9 analysis -- discovery analysis; right?
10 Q. Yeah, but you -- you told me that the reason it's
11 not included in Model 1, the reason the margin is not
12 included in Model 1, is because of the contract
13 language; --
14 A. Right.
15 Q. -- right?
16 So if that's the case and you had the contract
17 language when the Complaint was filed, why did you
18 include margin in this Market Cost Build Up?
19 A. This is -- I mean, as an example, like I said, we
20 presented kind of both ways. It's got total with and
21 total without. I mean, it's pretty comparable to me how
22 we present it in the report with the two models. Maybe
23 I'm missing your point.
24 Q. That's okay. Because the -- the table that's

Page 119

1 speaking?
2 A. Almost 14 percent, I mean, it's not immaterial.
3 Q. Okay.
4 A. I don't know, I didn't write the word "generous."
5 Q. Those aren't your words?
6 A. No.
7 Q. Okay. Do you recall the graph in Mr. Coleman's
8 rebuttal report that shows gross margin for certain
9 companies in the Dow Jones?
10 A. Oh, the thing at the back?
11 Q. Yes.
12 A. Yes. Is it possible we can flip to that?
13 Q. Yes.
14 A. Tell me what page it is. Sorry.
15 Q. It's at page 13.
16 A. Oh, okay.
17 Q. Yes?
18 A. Okay.
19 Q. Do you have an opinion about which of these are
20 unreasonable gross margins, if any?
21 A. I mean, I --
22 MR. WITTELS: Object. Objection.
23 A. I mean, as I understand it these are a summary of
24 things he got from Yahoo; right? So these are

Page 121

<p>1 their retail business.</p> <p>2 Q. Okay. Well, I guess --</p> <p>3 A. For example, a bunch of the Texas companies have</p> <p>4 retail supply businesses. We did a little bit on that,</p> <p>5 but not a major thing. But a bunch of the Texas</p> <p>6 companies had retail supply businesses that also had</p> <p>7 substantial other businesses.</p> <p>8 Q. I think I understand what you're saying. And you</p> <p>9 didn't work for the retail side of their businesses, you</p> <p>10 worked for the other side of their businesses?</p> <p>11 A. Or sometimes we would be hired on some kind of</p> <p>12 corporate strategy type engagement, which might be</p> <p>13 pretty broad.</p> <p>14 Q. Got it. Okay. I thank you for your time and</p> <p>15 your patience with me.</p> <p>16 MR. MATTHEWS: I'll pass the witness.</p> <p>17 A. Thank you.</p> <p>18 Q. Yes, sir.</p> <p>19</p> <p>20 EXAMINATION</p> <p>21</p> <p>22 BY MR. WITTELS:</p> <p>23 Q. Mr. Adamson, I just really have one question for</p> <p>24 you. You were asked by counsel for XOOM about whether</p>	<p>1 XOOM or some broad question.</p> <p>2 Q. And the answer was?</p> <p>3 A. I believe he said yes, they were, they were both</p> <p>4 profitable. Both fixed rate and variable rate were</p> <p>5 profitable.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay. I have no further questions at this time.</p> <p>7 Thanks.</p> <p>8 MR. MATTHEWS: Thanks very much.</p> <p>9 A. Thank you.</p> <p>10 VIDEOPHOTOGRAPHER: The time is 2:39, we are off</p> <p>11 the record.</p> <p>12 COURT REPORTER: And, Mr. Matthews, your</p> <p>13 order?</p> <p>14 MR. MATTHEWS: My order is an expedited</p> <p>15 transcript, just, I don't need any print copies.</p> <p>16 Electronic only. PDF exhibits.</p> <p>17 COURT REPORTER: Expedite by Friday?</p> <p>18 MR. MATTHEWS: Yes.</p> <p>19 (Whereupon, the deposition concluded at</p> <p>20 approximately 2:39 p.m.)</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p>
<p>Page 138</p> <p>1 the company was able to make any profits on its fixed</p> <p>2 rate customers; do you remember that question?</p> <p>3 A. Yeah. Not in exact wording, but I remember the</p> <p>4 question.</p> <p>5 Q. Yeah. And did you ask me to, whether you could</p> <p>6 go back and review your report when we had a break?</p> <p>7 A. Yeah, well -- yes, we were discussing the report.</p> <p>8 Q. And did you reread paragraph 57?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. And does that answer the question of whether XOOM</p> <p>11 made money and was profitable on its fixed rate</p> <p>12 customers?</p> <p>13 MR. MATTHEWS: Objection. Leading.</p> <p>14 A. Well, I just -- it just reminded me there was</p> <p>15 a -- I had said that there was not a specific P&L, this</p> <p>16 was a reference in the report to deposition testimony</p> <p>17 from a XOOM witness about the profitability of this.</p> <p>18 Q. And what did your report find and state?</p> <p>19 A. I don't remember exactly how he worded it. I</p> <p>20 think there had been a, in the deposition there was a</p> <p>21 question about, it was around, I don't have the</p> <p>22 transcript in front of me, of course, of the deposition,</p> <p>23 but it was something around the line of were -- were a</p> <p>24 fixed rate -- were fixed rate customers profitable for</p> <p>Page 139</p>	<p>Page 140</p> <p>1 CERTIFICATE</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS</p> <p>4 SUFFOLK, ss.</p> <p>5</p> <p>6 I, Laurie Langer, Registered Professional Reporter</p> <p>7 and Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of</p> <p>8 Massachusetts, do hereby certify that the witness whose</p> <p>9 deposition is hereinbefore set forth, was duly sworn by</p> <p>10 me and that such deposition is a true record of the</p> <p>11 testimony given by the witness.</p> <p>12</p> <p>13 I further certify that I am neither related to or</p> <p>14 employed by any of the parties in or counsel to this</p> <p>15 action, nor am I financially interested in the outcome</p> <p>16 of this action.</p> <p>17</p> <p>18 In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and</p> <p>19 seal this 11th day of November, 2022.</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p> NOTARY PUBLIC Commission Expires 7/27/2023</p> <p>Page 141</p>

36 (Pages 138 - 141)